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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/884,400	06/18/2001	Heung-For Cheng	42390P11056	2295

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EXAMINER

ZHEN, LI B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2194

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/884,400	Applicant(s) CHENG ET AL.	
	Examiner Li B. Zhen	Art Unit 2194	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 21 and 25 are pending in the current application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1 – 21 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,473,795 to Danielson et al. [hereinafter referred to as Danielson] in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,961,583 to Van Fleet [cited in the previous office action] further in view of “Intelligent Platform Management Interface Specification v1.0” [p. 1 – 13, 23, 69 and 93 – 103; hereinafter “IPMI1.0,” cited in the previous office action].**

5. As to claim 1, Danielson teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a first system management application [alert manager 58, Fig. 2; col. 6, lines 32 – 43] of a set of management applications [retry manager 76 and alert manager 58; col. 7, lines 1 – 20] for managing a host system [host; col. 6, lines 19 – 32] including a second system management application [retry manager 76; col. 7, lines 1 – 20], determining if an unprocessed record [Not Done (Status=4); col. 10, lines 26 – 37] is present in a system event log [alert log; col. 10, lines 26 – 37], the system event log stored in a non-volatile memory of the host system [alert log is a circular buffer; col. 10, lines 26 – 37].

6. Although Danielson teaches the invention substantially, Danielson does not specifically teach obtaining exclusive use of a system event log stored in a non-volatile memory of the host system, while preventing the second system management application from accessing the SEL concurrently.

However, Van Fleet teaches a first and second system management application [chain of threads in the Event List waiting for the representative event to occur; col. 5, lines 30 – 42], first system management application obtaining exclusive use of a system event log [each Event List Anchor 302 is used as a lock for the event list; col. 4, lines 50 - 61] and preventing the second system management application from accessing the system event log concurrently [col. 4, line 52- col. 5, line 6].

7. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of preventing a second application from accessing a system event log concurrently as taught by Van Fleet to the invention of Danielson because this provides serial access to the event list [col. 1, line 27 – 32 of Van Fleet].

8. Danielson as modified by Van Fleet does not specifically teach the first identifier for the unprocessed record of the SEL being derived from a second identifier stored in an identifier (ID) file in the non-volatile memory of the host system indicating a previously processed record of the SEL, the ID file storing the second identifier being separated from the SEL.

However, IPMI1.0 teaches a first system management application obtaining a first identifier corresponding to an unprocessed record [Next SEL Record ID; p. 97, Section 18.5], the first identifier for the unprocessed record of the SEL being derived from a second identifier stored in an identifier (ID) file in the non-volatile memory of the host system indicating a previously processed record of the SEL [GET LAST ENTRY, Table 18-5; p. 97, Section 18.5], the ID file storing the second identifier being separated from the SEL [application retrieves succeeding records by issuing a Get SDR command using the 'next' Record ID that was returned with the response of the previous Get SDR command. This is continued until the 'End of Records' ID is encountered; p. 105, Section 20.5]; the first system management application retrieving the unprocessed record from the SEL corresponding to the obtained first identifier [p. 105, Section 20.5];

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the first system management application performing a predetermined operation on the host system in response to the retrieved unprocessed record from the SEL [Once the application has read out the desired records, it can then randomly access the records according to their Record ID. An application that seeks to access records randomly must save a data structure that retains the Record Key information according to Record ID; p. 105, Section 20.5]; and the first management application storing the first identifier in the ID file after the predetermined operation has been performed and determining the next unprocessed record [Next Record ID is extracted from the response and this is then used as the Record ID in a Get SDR request to get the next record; p. 112, Section 20.12].

9. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply the teaching of the first identifier for the unprocessed record of the SEL being derived from a second identifier stored in an identifier (ID) file in the non-volatile memory of the host system as taught by IPMI1.0 to the invention of Danielson as modified by Van Fleet because this allows inventory, monitoring, logging, and recovery control functions to be available independent of the main processors, BIOS, and operating system [Section 1.5.1, 1st paragraph, p. 4 of IPMI1.0].

10. As to claim 2, Danielson as modified teaches the Intelligent Platform Management Interface architecture [Section 1.5.1, p. 4 of IPMI1.0] and a system event log [Section 1.5.6, p. 7 and Section 18, p. 93 of IPMI1.0].

11. As to claim 3, Danielson teaches each of records of the SEL is processed only once by one of the set of system management applications [col. 16, lines 34 – 52].

12. As to claim 4, Danielson as modified teaches a specific record of SEL has been processed is determined based on whether an identifier associated with the specific record has been stored in the ID file [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

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13. As to claim 5, Danielson as modified teaches an identifier associated with the specific record is only stored in the ID file only if the specific record has been processed by a system management application that processed the specific record [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

14. As to claim 6, Danielson as modified teaches obtaining exclusive use of the event log includes issuing a lock request to a lock agent application running [each Event List Anchor 302 is used as a lock for the event list; col. 4, lines 50 – 61 of Van Fleet] within the host system accessible by the set of system management applications [retry manager 76 and alert manager 58; col. 7, lines 1 – 20 of Danielson] for managing the host system [host; col. 6, lines 19 – 32 of Danielson].

15. As to claim 7, Danielson as modified teaches the previously processed record is processed by the second management application and the second identifier associated with the previously processed record is stored by the second management application after processing the previously processed record [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

16. As to claim 8, Danielson as modified teaches the second system management application processes the previously processed record and stores the second identifier in the ID file [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0] prior to a reinitialization of the host system [reinitializes the SDR Repository 'subsystem'; p. 115, Section 20.16 of IPMI1.0], and wherein the first system management application obtains the first identifier after the host system has been reinitialized [p. 115, Section 20.16 of IPMI1.0], the first identifier indicating a next unprocessed record from the SEL [repeated until the 'Last Record ID' value (FFFFh) is returned in the 'Next Record ID' field of the response; p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

17. As to claim 9, Danielson as modified teaches the ID file is maintained persistently [SDR Repository; p. 103, Section 20 of IPMI1.0] and separately from the SEL during the

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reinitialization of the host system including reboot of the host system [p. 115, Section 20.16 of IPMI1.0].

18. As to claim 10, Danielson teaches the one or more system management applications include one of out-of-band system management application and in-band system management applications [two types of alerting: in-band or out-of-band; col. 6, lines 18 – 33].

19. As to claim 11, Danielson as modified teaches processing the unprocessed record [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0] and releasing exclusive use of the system event log [unlocking the Event List Anchor; col. 5, lines 38 – 43 of Van Fleet].

20. As to claim 12, Danielson as modified teaches determining if there are additional records to process [repeated until the 'Last Record ID' value (FFFFh) is returned in the 'Next Record ID' field of the response; p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

21. As to claim 13, Danielson as modified teaches storing the identifier corresponding to the unprocessed record in non-volatile memory [Record ID for added record; p. 113, Section 20.13 of IPMI1.0].

22. As to claim 14, Danielson as modified teaches storing the identifier corresponding to the unprocessed record in the Intelligent Platform Management Interface Last Software Process Event ID storage location [records are added on after the last record in the SEL; p. 97, Section 18.6 of IPMI1.0].

23. As to claims 15 - 17, these are product claims that correspond to method claims 1 - 3; note the rejections to claims 1 - 3 above, which also meet these product claims.

24. As to claim 18, Danielson as modified teaches whether a specific record of SEL has been processed is determined based on whether an identifier associated with the

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specific record has been stored in the ID file [repeated until the 'Last Record ID' value (FFFFh) is returned in the 'Next Record ID' field of the response; p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

25. As to claim 19, Danielson as modified teaches an identifier associated with the specific record is only stored in the ID file only if the specific record has been processed by a system management application that processed the specific record [p. 112, Section 20.12 of IPMI1.0].

26. As to claim 20, Danielson as modified teaches obtaining exclusive use of the event log includes issuing a lock request to a lock agent application running [each Event List Anchor 302 is used as a lock for the event list; col. 4, lines 50 – 61 of Van Fleet] within the host system accessible by the set of system management applications [retry manager 76 and alert manager 58; col. 7, lines 1 – 20 of Danielson] for managing the host system including the first and second management applications [host; col. 6, lines 19 – 32 of Danielson].

27. As to claim 21, this is a product claim that corresponds to method claim 7; note the rejection to claims 7 above, which also meet this product claim.

28. As to claim 25, this is a system claim that corresponds to method claim 1; note the rejection to claim 1 above, which also meets this system claim.

Conclusion

29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

CONTACT INFORMATION

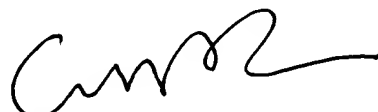
30. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3768. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Thomson can be reached on 571-272-3718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Li B. Zhen
Examiner
Art Unit 2194

lbz


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